

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Michel COSTANTINI et al) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Application No.: Unassigned) Examiner: Unassigned
(Corresponds to PCT/FR99/00420))
International Filing Date: 24 February 1999)
For: METHOD FOR SEPARATING AND)
PURIFYING ADIPIC ACID)
)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) [Process] A process for the treatment of the reaction mixture resulting from the direct oxidation of cyclohexane to adipic acid by molecular oxygen in an organic solvent in the presence of a catalyst, [characterized in that the] said process comprises:

- [a separation] separating into two liquid phases by settling: an upper phase [, which is essentially] comprising cyclohexane, and a lower phase, [essentially] comprising [the] an organic solvent, the diacids formed, [the] a catalyst and a portion of [the] other reaction products and [of the] unconverted cyclohexane;